

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 066285
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:JKBISHOP:MAR
APPROVED BY S - AHOUGHTEN
S/S-O:TMARTIN
NEA:NAVELIOTES
-----120091 151829Z /46

R 151501Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY RABAT
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MADRID

S E C R E T STATE 066285

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MO

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MARCH 12 MEETING WITH MOROCCAN
FOREIGN MINISTER: SAHARA

1. AT MARCH 12 FOLLOW-UP MEETING (SEE SEPTELS FOR OTHER
DETAILS) SECRETARY TOLD BOUCETTA THAT ALTHOUGH HE WOULD
LOOK HIMSELF AT BACKGROUND TO SAHARA SITUATION IT WAS CLEAR
THERE COULD BE NO CHANGE DURING 1978 ON OV-10S AND COBRAS.
HE THEN MENTIONED HIS CONCERN ABOUT USE OF F-5S IN SAHARA,
STATING THAT CERTAIN CONGRESSMEN WHO ARE AWARE F-5S ARE
THERE MAY USE THIS KNOWLEDGE TO TRY TO DEFEAT ARMS PACKAGE
FOR SAUDI ARABIA, EGYPT AND ISRAEL. AMBASSADOR ANDERSON
ADDED THERE HAD BEEN NUMEROUS PRESS REPORTS ABOUT PRESENCE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 066285

OF F-5S IN SAHARA AS WELL AS IN MAURITANIA, AND THAT THESE
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND THEIR STAFFS, FOCUSSED ON OUR RE-
LATIONS WITH MOROCCO, WERE WELL AWARE OF THEM. SECRETARY
THEN EXPLAINED THAT SOME CONGRESSMEN CLAIM F-15S SOLD TO
SAUDIS WILL BE USED AGAINST ISRAEL, AND DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN
ARGUING THAT U.S. WOULD IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS PROHIBITING
SUCH USE. CONGRESSIONAL OPPONENTS MIGHT WELL CITE PRESENCE

OF F-5S IN MAURITANIA AND SAHARA AS EVIDENCE SUCH RESTRICTIONS ARE INEFFECTIVE.

2. CONTINUING, SECRETARY SAID HE ALSO CONCERNED THAT IN CURRENT WEEK'S MARKUP OF 45 MILLION DOLS FMS PROGRAM FOR MOROCCO SOME CONGRESSMEN MAY CLAIM PRESENCE OF F-5S AND OTHER U.S.-FURNISHED EQUIPMENT OUTSIDE MOROCCO REQUIRE IMPOSITION OF RESTRICTIVE AMENDMENTS TO FMS LEGISLATION. SECRETARY SAID HE DID NOT WISH SEE ANY OBSTACLE CREATED FOR TRADITIONAL MILITARY SALES PROGRAM, WHICH HE VALUED IN OUR RELATIONS AND WISHED TO SEE CONTINUE.

3. BOUCETTA SAID HE THOUGHT THESE WERE MATTERS WHICH WOULD NOT ARISE UNLESS STIRRED UP. NOTING THAT NO ONE HAD BROUGHT THEM UP BEFORE, HE SAW NO NEED TO BRING THEM UP NOW. CONTINUING, FONMIN COMMENTED HE COULD NOT STATE THAT THERE WAS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TWO PARTS OF MOROCCO-- MOROCCO WITH AND MOROCCO WITHOUT THE SAHARA. WITH THE PASSAGE OF TIME, AND WITH NO QUESTIONS ASKED, PROBLEM WOULD TAKE CARE OF ITSELF. MOROCCO NEEDS U.S. HELP, HE SAID, BUT NOT AT EXPENSE OF ITS BASIC PRINCIPALS. (IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR ANDERSON PREVIOUS EVENING ON LIMITATION OF USE OF U.S. ARMS IMPOSED BY 1960 AGREEMENT, A TROUBLED BOUCETTA REITERATED NON-AGGRESSIVE, PURELY DEFENSIVE PURPOSES, AND WENT ON TO SAY THAT IF MOROCCO COULD NOT USE U.S. EQUIPMENT FOR THESE PURPOSES, SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 066285

IT WOULD HAVE NO CHOICE BUT "TO TAKE OTHER DISPOSITIONS"; EVEN THOUGH IT PREFERRED TO RETAIN ITS CLOSE MILITARY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S.)

4. SECRETARY SAID DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS SUBJECT WILL BE RAISED, AND THAT IT WILL BE USED AGAINST MIDEAST ARMS PACKAGE. AMBASSADOR ANDERSON ADDED THAT THE CONGRESS HAD ALREADY RAISED THESE ISSUES; AFTER VELIOTES' RECENT APPEARANCE AT COMMITTEE HEARINGS, DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN GIVEN ABOUT THIRTY SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS TO ANSWER FOR RECORD, AND USE OF U.S. EQUIPMENT OUTSIDE MOROCCO IS RAISED IN THESE QUESTIONS. SECRETARY SUGGESTED DEPARTMENT AND MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR BENGELLOUN WORK TOGETHER TO DEAL WITH THESE QUESTIONS. FONMIN AGREED WITH THIS SUGGESTION. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING REPORTS, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE066285
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JKBISHOP:MAR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780115-0687
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780364/aaaaccmk.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c73fcec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3321105
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S MARCH 12 MEETING WITH MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTER: SAHARA
TAGS: MASS, MO, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (BOUCETTA, MOHAMED)
To: RABAT
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c73fcec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014